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The History of the World: a Survey of Man's Record. Edited by Dr. H. F. HELMOLT. Vol. II, Eastern Asia and Oceania—the Indian Ocean. (New York: Dodd, Mead, and Company. 1904. Pp. xviii, 642.)

THE present volume, conceived as it is upon "ethnogeographical" principles, shares the general characteristics of the other volumes of this work that have already appeared. Again the main difficulty is seen to consist, not so much in the principle of writing a history of the world from the standpoint of ethnography and geography, as of so harmonizing, in one connected narrative, the conclusions of these sciences with the natural sequence of historical development, as to reduce the inevitable repetitions and anticipations into the smallest possible extent. It is, for instance, not until one has read all of Japan and much of China in this volume that he begins to comprehend some obscure points about the former country, while many an important question of Chinese history is in turn reserved for the following section on Central Asia. To India, also, we come only after we have read much of the moral influence which emanated from it and, in addition, have gone through Siberia, Australia, and Oceania.

Another, perhaps not a necessary, fault of the method may be found in the fact that the authors generally fail to manifest as much skill and care in sifting the historical facts, and in tracing the development of the institutions of each individual nation, as in showing the mutual reaction between the race and its environment. The word feudalism, for example, seems to be so loosely used throughout the volume as to render its accounts practically valueless for the critical student. All of these defects, however, cannot outweigh the peculiar advantages of this method, which one will be likely to miss hereafter in the universal histories of the old type. Each geographical section presented in this volume is introduced by a characterization of its relative position on the globe, and attempts are constantly made to interpret the life of the nations in the light of their surroundings and to deduce from this study certain laws of human progress. Great stress is laid upon the effects of the contact of different races and civilizations, including the results of the rule of the whites over the natives.

These observations, however, would not entirely apply to Max von Brandt's section on Japan, China, and Korea, which alone in the volume lacks sociological interest. Formerly a successful German envoy at Tokio and Peking, where his forceful personality is still remembered, the writer is satisfactory neither as a sociologist nor as a historian, neither in interpretation nor in criticism. However, his authorities on China are better than those on Japan, and his chapters on the history of Christianity in both countries are excellent.

The characteristic portion of the volume does not begin until von Brandt gives his place to the late Dr. Heinrich Schurtz, of Leipzig. The noted ethnologist has contributed a highly suggestive section on Central

Asia (in the German edition, *Hochasien*) and Siberia. On a fine geographical background he constructs his theories of the development of an agricultural civilization by the brachycephalic race which settled in China and Sumeria, and the subsequent expansion of the dolichocephalic Aryan nomads toward Central Asia, with the consequent movements and admixture of races of various stages of culture upon the plateau. Particularly illuminating is his account of the political relations of China with the Central Asiatic nomads, and of the continual religious and commercial communications which passed through the Tarim basin. The same writer's chapters on Indonesia, telling of the extensive migrations of the Negritos and Malays, are not less instructive.

The late Dr. Emil Schmidt's section on India, Ceylon, and Indo-China, which was written probably some years ago and has been revised by Dr. Helmolt, may be said to be of ordinary value. On the other hand, the chapters by Dr. Karl Weule on Australia and Oceania are closely parallel to Dr. Schurtz's in the richness of their sociological data. He also considers the missionary question, not as a mere series of historical incidents, but as a phase of the many-sided contact of the different races and cultures. Regarding the Indian Ocean — Dr. Weule seems to be deeply interested in the oceans — his views of the Chinese and Arab traders of the middle ages, and of the struggle of the English in modern times to control the ocean, are full of interest. Perhaps the chapters in this and other volumes, all of which have thus far been written by Dr. Weule, on the historical importance of the oceans are a characteristic mark of this work. Where else in a world's history is one apt to find such phrases as the geographical and historical axes of an ocean and a zone of its greatest historical density?

The English edition is not entirely free from mistranslations and misprints. To take only a few examples: *gongen* (incarnation) has been taken for a plural noun and translated as "gongs" (p. 11); *Reichsfürsten* and *Reichsunmittelbaren* are wrongly connected with the emperor, instead of with the feudal suzerain (pp. 33, 35, 36); and the last paragraph of section B on page 342, which is obscure enough in the German edition, is rendered in such a way that the translator himself could hardly have understood the meaning. The Chinese *mau* is made equivalent to 675.68 acres, instead of as many ares — a difference of forty to one (p. 63). The Area of Mongolia is stated to be 354,000 square kilometers, which should be 3,543,000 (p. 57). The German edition itself being careless of the transliteration of the Japanese *z* and *s*, and *j* and *y*, it is not strange that the translator has been often led astray. A useful sketch-map on p. 300 of the German is not reproduced in the English edition, although all the other excellent maps and plates have been admirably copied. Finally, following the general plan of the work, the volume lacks bibliographical data except the scanty references to a few authors scattered throughout the text.